

In re Patent Application of:

**FLICK**

Serial No. 10/626,969

Filing Date: JULY 25, 2003

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application and his helpful comments made during the Examiner's interview of June 1, 2005, which we have incorporated into our response. The Examiner is also thanked for identifying allowable subject matter in Claims 9-11. The patentability of the claims is discussed in greater detail below. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. The Claimed Invention

Independent Claim 1, for example, is directed to a vehicle security system for a vehicle of a type comprising a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and connected to a plurality of vehicle devices. The vehicle security system includes a vehicle security sensor interfacing with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle for generating a pre-warning signal or an alarm signal depending upon a sensed threat level. The vehicle security system further includes an alarm indicator, and a vehicle security controller interfacing with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle for causing the alarm indicator to generate a pre-warning indication based upon the pre-warning signal, or for causing the alarm indicator to generate an alarm indication based upon the alarm signal. Independent Claim 30 is a related method and includes similar features to Claim 1.

Independent Claim 12 is directed to a vehicle security system for a vehicle of a type comprising a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and connected to a plurality of vehicle devices. The vehicle

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security system comprises a vehicle security sensor for generating a pre-warning signal or an alarm signal depending upon a sensed threat level, and an alarm indicator interfacing with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. The vehicle security system further comprises a vehicle security controller connected to the vehicle security sensor and interfacing with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle for causing the alarm indicator to generate a pre-warning indication based upon the pre-warning signal, or for causing the alarm indicator to generate an alarm indication based upon the alarm signal. Independent Claim 37 is a related method and includes similar features to Claim 12.

Independent Claim 20 is directed to a vehicle security device for use with a vehicle of a type comprising a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. The vehicle security device comprises a sensor for generating a pre-warning signal or an alarm signal depending upon a sensed threat level. The vehicle security device further comprises a security sensor bus interface for interfacing the sensor with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle.

Independent Claim 25 is directed to a vehicle security device for a vehicle of a type comprising a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. The vehicle security device comprises an alarm indicator and associated alarm indicator data bus interface for interfacing the alarm indicator with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. The alarm indicator is for generating a pre-warning indication responsive to a pre-

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warning signal on the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle, and for generating an alarm indication based upon an alarm signal on the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle.

## II. Claims 1-11 And 30-36 Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 1 and 30 as unpatentable over the Hwang '407 patent (the Hwang patent) in view of the Suman et al. '298 patent (the Suman et al. patent) or the Nykerk '285 patent (the Nykerk patent). The Hwang patent discloses a prealarm sensor for a vehicle security system that can generate a pre-alerting signal, which is different than the normal alarm signal. The prealarm sensor is hardwire connected to a main control alarm circuit. The Examiner correctly notes that the communication line between the prealarm sensor and the main control alarm circuit is not a data communications bus and looks to the Suman et al. or Nykerk patent to provide such.

The Examiner incorrectly notes that the Suman et al. patent discloses a data bus 111 that interfaces with vehicle security sensors 101-110. The data bus 111 noted by the Examiner interfaces with the input interface circuitry 100, which then interfaces with the wiring harness 73a. (See Fig. 6A and column 7, lines 11-14). The wiring harness 73a is then hardwire connected with vehicle security sensors 101-110. In other words, the vehicle security sensors 101-110 are hardwire connected to the wiring harness 73a and never interface with the data bus 111 as the Examiner contends.

The Examiner also correctly notes that the Nykerk patent discloses a data bus 64 connected to a processor 60, a

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switch 81, a data latch 76, a data latch 78, a memory 82, and an interface driver 88. (See Fig. 4). However, the Nykerk patent fails to disclose the data bus 64 interfacing with a vehicle security sensor.

In contrast, independent Claim 1, for example, includes a vehicle security sensor interfacing with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. The combination of the Hwang patent in view of the Suman et al. patent or the Nykerk patent fails to disclose such. Independent counterpart method Claim 30 includes similar features.

Accordingly, independent Claims 1 and 30 are patentable. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features of the invention, are also patentable, and require no further discussion.

### III. Claims 12-19, 25-29, And 37-40 Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 12, 25, and 37 as unpatentable over the Hwang patent in view of the Suman et al. patent or the Nykerk patent. The Hwang patent is discussed above. The Suman et al. patent further includes a data bus 116 that interfaces with the output interface circuitry 115, which then interfaces with the wiring harness 73b. (See Fig. 6B and column 7, lines 31-37). The wiring harness 73b is then hardwire connected to the vehicle security output devices. The Nykerk patent fails to disclose the data bus 64 interfacing with an alarm indicator or the data bus extending throughout the vehicle. (See Fig. 4).

In contrast, independent Claim 12, for example, includes an alarm indicator interfacing with the vehicle data

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communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. The combination of the Hwang patent in view of the Suman et al. patent or the Nykerk patent fails to disclose such. Independent Claim 25 and independent counterpart method Claim 37 includes similar features.

Accordingly, independent Claims 12, 25, and 37 are patentable. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features of the invention, are also patentable, and require no further discussion.

#### IV. Claims 20-24 Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 20 as unpatentable over the Hwang patent in view of the Suman et al. patent or the Nykerk patent. The Hwang and Suman et al. patents are discussed above. The Nykerk patent fails to disclose a security sensor bus interface for interfacing the sensor with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle.

In contrast, independent Claim 20, for example, includes a security sensor bus interface for interfacing the sensor with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. Accordingly, independent Claim 20 is patentable. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features of the invention, are also patentable, and require no further discussion.

#### V. CONCLUSIONS

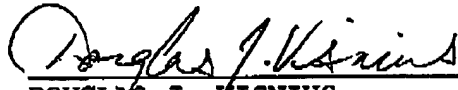
In view of the arguments presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course.

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Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has been forwarded via facsimile number 703-872-9306 to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2005.

